

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please approve the accompanying Request for Approval of Drawing Change.

REMARKS:

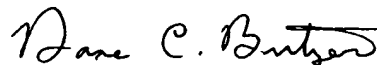
Claims 1, 4, 21, 23, 25 to 29, and 39 have been amended, and claims 40 to 91 have been added. Claims 1, 21, 40, 46, 52, 57, 63, 69, 74, 80, 86 and 91 are the independent claims.

The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities.

The entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at (614) 486-3585. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: November 28, 2001

Dane C. Butzer
Reg. No. 43,521

The Swernofsky Law Group
P.O. Box 390013
Mountain View, CA 94039-0013
(650) 947-0700

Changes to Specification

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii), changes to the specification effected by the accompanying paper are indicated below.

The paragraph at page 8, lines 5 to 9, has been amended as follows:

- **Virus** [Virus] – in general, a manmade program or piece of code that is loaded onto a computer without the computer user's knowledge and runs against their wishes. Most viruses can also replicate themselves, and the more dangerous types of viruses are capable of transmitting themselves across networks and bypassing security systems.

The paragraph at page 10, lines 16 to 19, has been amended as follows:

The client device 110 includes a processor, a main memory, and software for executing instructions (not shown, but understood by one skilled in the art). Although the client device 110 and filer 130 [140] are shown as separate devices there is no requirement that they be physically separate.

The paragraph at page 14, lines 7 to 11, has been amended as follows:

The processing cluster 140 is highly scalable [scaleable]. The price of personal computers is low compared to dedicated devices, such as filers, therefore this configuration is very desirable. Additionally, a cluster configuration offers redundant systems availability in case a cluster device 141 fails – failover and takeover is also possible within the processing cluster.

Changes to Claims

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii), changes to any claims effected by the accompanying paper are indicated below.

Claims 1, 4, 21, 23, 25 to 29, and 39 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for operating a filer including the steps of [;] :
receiving at a first location a request from a user for an object;
processing said request at a second location, wherein said step of processing includes at least one of the following: (1) searching for one or more recognizable patterns of data within said object, (2) compressing said object, and (3) encrypting said object [.] ;
responding to said request, wherein said step of responding includes delivery of a response to said user.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said step of processing said request further includes the steps of [;] :
creating an access path from said filer to a processing cluster;
processing said file in said processing cluster; and
generating a scan report wherein, said scan report is responsive to said processing of said file in said processing cluster.

21. (Amended) An apparatus for operating a filer including [.] :

means for receiving at a first location a request from a user for an object;
means for processing said request at a second location, wherein said means for processing includes at least one of the following: (1) means for searching for one or more recognizable patterns of data within said object, (2) means for compressing said object, and (3) means for encrypting said object [.] ;
means for responding to said request, wherein said means for responding includes delivery of a response to said user.

23. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said means for processing said request further includes:

means for creating an access path from said filer to a processing cluster;
means for processing said file in said processing cluster; and
means for generating a scan report wherein, said scan report is responsive to said processing of said file in said processing cluster.

25. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said [means for] sending is accomplished using non-uniform memory access.

26. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said [means for] sending is accomplished using a communications network.

27. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said [means for] sending is accomplished using a direct connection.

28. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said [means for] processing of said file is performed by said processing cluster in a round robin fashion for subsequent files received.

29. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said [means for] processing of said file is performed on atomic units of said file by more than one device in said processing cluster.

39. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said [means for] responding to said request includes sending said user some portion of said scan report.

Claims 40 to 91 have been added.